

The Sumpter Miner

Official Paper of the Town of Sumpter.

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C. H. MARSH AND J. W. CONNELLA

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THAT Governor Mackintosh's connection with the Sumpter town and district is, in itself, a benefit, cannot be doubted. This fact alone will induce many men and much money to come here.

IT IS announced that ex-Senator John H. Mitchell will locate in Baker City at an early date and there practice law, in partnership with Marion F. Butler, late of Pendleton. Mr. Mitchell has some warm political friends in this county who will welcome him as a citizen.

ALL of eastern Oregon should congratulate itself over the published statement that President Mohler, of the O. R. & N., will remain with that company; that the earlier reports that he had resigned were unfounded. No man has done more for this section of the state in the past, or would or will in the future.

FOR two weeks past there has been a complete lumber famine in this camp, due to the unexpected large demand. Then, too, the continuance of mild weather much longer than is usual, has something to do with the creation of this condition. Building operations will not be entirely suspended this winter.

ONE newspaper has the "front" to voluntarily offer to write up Sumpter for the small consideration of \$600. Papers that are looking for the news are spending money to get information regarding the camp, which is not being boomed on the old system of newspaper puffs, employed by those who seek to create an artificial business activity. Sumpter and the surrounding mines stand on their merits, and are doing fairly well, thank you.

THAT long waited for plan of developing this district, from the proceeds of the sale of treasury stock, has been fairly inaugurated. THE MINER is getting out a half-dozen or more sets of stock certificates, prospectus and other mining company stationery. Some of these properties are good and will make the owners and those who buy the stocks rich; others will not pan out so profitably, but all will aid in the development of the district, and that will be a net gain to the district, state and the world at large. The few losses by individuals are inevitable, not only in mining ventures, but in every other business, and he who can see only this side of the picture would be more or less a failure in any sphere. He is particularly out of place in a mining camp.

OVER at Portland the Telegram is making a strenuous effort to awaken the sleepy citizens of that back number camp to the fact that the Sumpter district is a marvel of mineral wealth, and that Portland, in some vague, undefined way, ought to endeavor to reap some benefit therefrom. But instead of urging its alleged wealthy readers to invest some of their hoarded coin, rusted from long disuse, in the rich mines surrounding Sumpter, and dig the gold from the rocks, thus adding to their own, the state's and the world's wealth, the burden of its song is that some concerted movement be made to sell more merchandise in this section of the state. Even to accomplish this last

object, the dearest known to Portland heart, the best method would be to win the good will of the district by helping in its development, but this idea apparently never occurs to the Portland mind, which seems to be exclusively and narrowly commercial. Had the district relied on the men and money of that town, it would still have been in the dormant condition in which it remained for twenty years, and the people here are cognizant of this obtrudingly conspicuous fact. But fortunately men of enterprise from Montana, Washington and British Columbia learned of the gold deposits here, are revealing them to the world and reaping rich rewards for their enterprise. Freight rates, however, favor Portland and if the business men of that town will handle the proposition with ordinary intelligence, stop treating every man who goes there with a mining deal as if he were trying to sell a gold brick, they may yet dispose of their wares in this market—for, unfortunately, there is no sentiment in trade. If there were, Portland could sell no goods in Sumpter.

THE MINER has been expecting and assiduously looking for some adverse comment on Sumpter and the surrounding mines, but so far has found only the ridiculously, transparently false article published some time since in the Butte Inter Mountain. Sixty days or so ago, it is true, some of the mossback papers in eastern Oregon, notably the East Oregonian, shied a few sneers and rocks in this direction, aimed more particularly at the enterprising men from other states who are building up the camp and developing the mines, but more recently nothing has appeared in the columns of even these bile-livered publications except words of wonder and commendation. That this proposition is a several times winner there is not the shadow of a doubt.

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